

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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ARKANSAS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK ROBBERY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Arkansas man pleaded guilty in federal court today to robbing U.S. Bank in Joplin, Mo.

Nathan Edward Johnson, 22, of Springdale, Ark., pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this afternoon to the charge contained in a Dec. 14, 2005, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty today, **Johnson** admitted that he robbed U.S. Bank, 2801 E. 32nd St., in Joplin, on Jan. 23, 2004. **Johnson** handed the teller a note during the robbery, Graves explained, ordering her to take the money from her teller drawer and warning her not to signal the police.

Under federal statutes, **Johnson** could be subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Springdale, Ark., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html